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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : PCT/US2005/007396

Confirmation No.

Applicant (s) : M. V. Spencer

Filed : Concurrently Herewith

Title : PRODUCTION OF LOW MOLECULAR WEIGHT  
ETHYLCELLULOSE

Docket No. : 63669A

Customer No. : 00109

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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Attached hereto are **Amendments to the Claims** which are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper. The changes in Claims 3-7 only relate to formalities, such as deletion of multiple dependencies. New Claim 14 is based on original Claim 6. New Claim 15 is based on original Claims 6 and 9. New Claim 16 is based on original Claim 13 and on page 7, lines 24 – 31 of the original

specification of the present patent application. No new subject matter is added by these amendments.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Jennifer S. Warren", is positioned above a horizontal line.

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